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SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the year 1943.

To the Chairman and Members of the Skegness Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my ninth Annual Report.

STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,411.788
Number of inhabited houses 1943	3,200
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1943.	£100,512
Product of a penny rate	£350

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE YEAR.

	Total	Males	Females
Births	181	90	91
Deaths	104	53	51

Number of women dying in consequence of childbirth:	from Sepsis	Nil
	from other causes	"

Deaths of infants under one year of age.	11
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Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	17
" " Measles	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
" " Cerebro Spinal Fever	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON PULMONARY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0								
1								
5								
15	1	1	1		1	1		
25	2	1						
35	2	2			2			
45		1				1		
55	1	1		1				
65 and upwards	1	1						
Totals :	7	7	1	1	3	2		

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year. The figures are :-

	Total cases notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Scarlet Fever	4	4	Nil
Diphtheria	4	4	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	Nil	Nil
Measles	1	Nil	Nil
Typhoid Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chicken Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals:-	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Nil</u>

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. There was one case notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS of the AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health, and Superintendent of Isolation Hospital; Dr. D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch B.(St.And.)

Sanitary Inspector Superintendent of house and trade refuse removal; S.James, (1) Cert.Royal Sanitary Institute (2) Cert.Royal Sanitary Institute. Meat and Food.

Matron of Isolation Hospital Miss M. Morrison, State Reg. Nurse.

NURSING:

I am indebted to Miss M.Walker, the Secretary to the District Nurse Association, for the following reports of the District Nurses' work :-

General Nursing Visits	3098
Maternity and Midwifery Visits	1932
Ante-Natal	225
Post-Natal	114
Maternity and Midwifery cases	104

I consider the above figures speak highly of the good work done by our District Nurses.

SKEGNESS INFANT WELFARE

Attendances. 371 Mothers and 450 Children were registered at the Clinic during the year. The Centre is open every Friday from 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. Dr.Wilson and two Health Visitors are in attendance. Various duties are also carried out by members of the Infant Welfare Committee. Baby clothes are made by the members of the Committee and friends, and are sold at very reasonable prices.

Immunisation. Children are immunised on the third Friday of each month.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the first and third Fridays in each month from 10.30 a.m. A qualified dentist attends periodically.

National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juice are dispensed from the Centre every Wednesday and Friday.

The Orthopaedic Clinic is held at the Centre each week, and our children attend for treatment when necessary.

I am indebted to Mrs.D.T.Edwards for the above excellent report and for which I tender my grateful thanks. I also wish to thank the nurses and Committee of the Association for their excellent work throughout the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

The hospital for infectious diseases is situated in an isolated position on the Wainfleet Road, and is about 2 miles from the town.

There are 16 beds available for residents and visitors.

The buildings consist of one ward block, one cubicle block, administrative block, also outhouses and housing for steam disinfectors.

I must express my thanks to the Matron (Miss M. Morrison) for the skill and careful attention given to all patients whilst in hospital.

The hospital proved adequate during the year to deal with all cases of infectious disease which arose.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Approximately 800 children under five years of age or 55% and 1,200 children between the ages of five and fifteen years or 83%, had by the 31st December, been immunised under the Council's scheme.

Only four cases of diphtheria were notified during the year and of these two were residents and two visitors. There were no cases reported amongst those persons who had been immunised, and there were no deaths.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is a local centre for the treatment of venereal diseases and sessions are held each week.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The County Council provide for the treatment of tuberculosis. A clinic for this purpose is established at Skegness.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The general health of the town has been good during the year.

SCAVENGING.

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, privies, and cess-pools in the area is carried out by the Council.

This work was carried out during the year under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector in a most efficient manner.

The most important work in this connection is Salvage which requires constant thought and attention. Excellent results were obtained during the year from this source.

SANITARY INSPECTION of the AREA.

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action or result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary conditions and water supply at the public elementary schools are excellent.

The County School Medical Officer regularly inspects the Schools and the children. Any treatment required can be obtained through the medical practitioners in the town and through the various schemes provided by the Education Committee. As in the case of Infant Welfare Centres close co-operation between the Medical Officers and the Medical Practitioners is essential for the efficient service.

Milk is available to all school children.

SHOPS ACT.

Inspections are made from time to time and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

HOUSING.

The general housing conditions are good, there being no houses overcrowded at the end of the year.

REPORT ON HOUSING ACTS INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections made and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

MEAT AND FOOD.

The three private slaughter-houses situate in Richmond Drive are visited by your Council's Sanitary Inspector during hours of slaughter.

The inspection of meat now takes up a good deal of time necessitating many hours overtime being worked.

The number of visits paid in connection with food inspection will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is stored or prepared for sale have been regularly inspected.

MILK SUPPLY.

All farms and dairies in the district have been frequently visited. All the cowsheds and dairies are of good construction and every effort is made to attain a high Standard of cleanliness. Twenty one samples of ordinary milk were obtained and submitted for analysis. Of these, five were found to be unsatisfactory and letters were addressed to the milk producers concerned directing attention to this.

Two samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were found on examination to be satisfactory.

Eight samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted for examination and of these, six were found to be unsatisfactory. One producer had six successive samples which did not satisfy the prescribed test and after appearing before the Health Committee it was decided to suspend his licence. Plate counts of this pasteurised milk varied from 368,000 per ml. to as high as 2,400,000 per ml. The licence was withdrawn in December and was still in suspension at the end of the year.

MILK SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS ORDER, 1936.

There is one licensed producer and two licensed purveyors of Pasteurised Milk, three licensed dealers of Tuberculin Tested Milk. One licence is granted to an establishment to bottle Accredited Milk.

BAKEHOUSES.

Frequent visits have been paid to the bakehouses in the district. These are clean and well kept.

There are no underground bakehouses.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The County Council is the Authority for carrying out this act.

WORKSHOPS.

These were inspected periodically, and it was found in one or two instances that the attention of the occupier

WORKSHOPS (Contd.)

had to be drawn to the uncleanness of sanitary conveniences or want of limowashing of internal wall surfaces. These matters were put right without resorting to formal measures. The work carried on is mainly motor repairs, dressmaking and millinery, cycle repairs, joinery photography and upholstery.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

Accommodation and Staff. The present accommodation for in-patients is Twenty-three Beds and Nine Private Wards, including the Maternity Section of Four Beds and Three Private Wards.

Medical Staff. The local Medical Staff consists of Drs. M. Backwell, J.Baxter (Burgh), W.Brownlie, R.N. Kinnison (Wainfleet), J.D.O'Neill, A.S.Paterson (Hogsthorpe), B.Sweeten and T.R.Wilson (Wainfleet). With the exception of Drs.Backwell, O'Neill and Paterson, who are now serving with H.M.Forces, all have been in regular attendance.

In-Patients. During the year the number of in-patients was 511, viz., 252 male and 259 female, an increase of 21 as compared with the previous year. Of these cases 118 were surgical, 205 medical and 188 maternity. 73 general and 15 local anaesthetics were administered, and 88 operations were performed, as compared with 130 in 1942.

73 persons were admitted during the year suffering with injuries received in road and other accidents. The 1942 total was 104.

There have been 12 deaths, 7 of which occurred within 48 hours of admission.

Out-Patients. The out-patients numbered 611, 164 minor operations were performed, 45 general and 60 local anaesthetics were administered, and 465 dressings were given.

X-Ray Department. During the year 1684 X-Ray cases have been dealt with, as compared with 941 in 1942. The scale of charges is extremely moderate, and fees are payable at the time of examination. The work of this Department again shows a very heavy increase, mainly due to the larger number of cases dealt with under the Emergency Hospital Scheme, viz. 1475 as compared with 775 in 1942.

I append the Sanitary Inspector's report and would take this opportunity of stating my pleasure in carrying out my duties under a Council so earnest in the desire to ensure perfectly healthy conditions for the town.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch.B. (St.And.)

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Report of work done by the Sanitary Inspector
for the year 1943.

TOTAL NO. of NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR. Nil

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| (1) By the Local Authority | Nil |
| (2) By other Local Authorities | Nil |
| (3) By other bodies or persons | Nil |

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) a. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 112 |
| b. Number of inspections made for the purpose | 296 |
| (2) a. Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | Nil |
| b. Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head.) found not to be in all respects not reasonably fit for human habitation | 78 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICES OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	78
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| a. by owners | Nil |
| b. by Local Authority in default of owners. | Nil |

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:- | |
| a. by owners | Nil |
| b. by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses subject to under-takings. | Nil |

d.	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. - OVERCROWDING.

a.(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil
(11)	Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
(111)	Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
b.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	Nil
c.(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.	Nil
(11)	Number of persons concerned in such cases.	Nil
d.	Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved.	Nil
e.	Number of licences granted under Section 61.	Nil

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, TENTS, VANS, etc.

No. inspected during the year	Nil
No. of nuisances therefrom abated	Nil
No. removed from district	Nil

BAKEHOUSES.

No. in district	9
No. of underground bakehouses	Nil
No. of Inspections	40
Contraventions of Factory Acts	2
Defects remedied	2

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES

No. on register	3
No. of Inspections	daily
Contraventions of by-laws	Nil
Defects remedied	Nil

COWSHEDS

No. on register	13
No. of Inspections	32
Contraventions of regulations	4
Contraventions remedied	4
No. of milch cows in district	approx. 175

DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS.

No. on register	8
No. of Inspections	30
Contraventions of regulations	2
Contraventions remedied	2
Any instance of disease attributed to milk during the year	No

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of premises in district	8
Number of inspections	24
Contraventions of by-laws	3
Contraventions remedied	3

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Number of shops inspected	47
Additional heating or ventilation	Nil
Additional sanitary conveniences	Nil
Exemption Certificate granted under Section 10 (2)	Nil

WATER SUPPLY

WELLS

Now sunk	Nil
Cleansed, repaired	Nil
Closed as polluted	Nil

PUBLIC SUPPLY

Area supplied	practically whole area.
Percentage of houses supplied	99%
New Cisterns provided	Nil
Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered etc.	Nil
Number of samples obtained for analysis	
(a) from wells	Nil
(b) from public supply	6
Any insufficiency and where	Nil

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE

CLOSETS.

Number of houses with privy vaults in district	3
Number of houses with pail closets in district	37
Number of pail closets substituted for privy vaults	Nil
Number of pail closets repaired	7
Number of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	Nil
Number of houses with water-closets in district	3,294
Number of water-closets repaired	57

DRAINS

Drains examined, tested, exposed, etc.	11
Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc.	105
Waste pipes, rain water pipes disconnected repaired, etc.	19
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	4
Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	3
Drains reconstructed	2

SEWERS

New lengths of sewer laid	Nil
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CESSPOOLS

Cesspools rendered impervious	Nil
Cesspools emptied, cleansed, etc.	weekly
Cesspools abolished	Nil

DISINFECTION

Rooms disinfected	67
(a) ordinary infectious disease	26
(b) tuberculosis	5
Rooms stripped and cleansed	36

HOUSE REFUSE

Number of covered ashpits	7
Number of uncovered ashpits	Nil
Number of bins substituted for ashpits	Nil
Number of houses using bins	3,327
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavengers?	Council
How often is refuse removed from each house?	Weekly.
Number of complaints of non-removal	Nil
Method of final disposal	Salvage and Controlled Tip.
Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory?	Yes

NUISANCES

Total number of nuisances during the year	
(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	58
(2) Reported to Council, Statutory notice issued	Nil
-do- -do- not issued	6

DETAILS OF NUISANCES ABATED

	After Informal Intimation.	After Stat. Notice.
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil
Smoke	"	"
Accumulation of refuse	8	"
Foul ditches, ponds, stagnant water.	Nil	"
Foul pigs and other animals	11	"
Dampness	37	"
Yards re-paved or repaired	2	"
Other nuisances	Nil	"

Supplementary remarks to Sanitary Requirements
of District, and extended notes from any of the
foregoing entries.

Miscellaneous Visits totalled (These include visits
in connection with house and trade refuse removal
disposal and salvage, and visits to properties with
agents, owners and builders.) 750

Infectious Disease Visits and
Visits to Food premises 102
Inspections under Rats and Mice
Destruction Act. 71

Any Assistants to Sanitary Inspector? NO

